

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
January 24, 2011

The Bartholomew County Commissioners met in regular session on January 24, 2011 in the Governmental Office Building, 440 Third Street, Columbus, Indiana. Chairman Lienhoop called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Commissioner Larry Kleinhenz, Commissioner Paul Franke, Auditor Barbara J. Hackman, and County Attorney J. Grant Tucker were also in attendance. Chairman Lienhoop gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, the minutes of the January 18, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Commissioner Kleinhenz and seconded by Commissioner Franke.

The Payroll Claims were presented for approval. Commissioner Franke made a motion to approve the Payroll Claims. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, Chairman Lienhoop read the New Permits Report from 1/17/2011 to 1/21/2011. Sixteen building permits were issued with a fee amount of \$445.00 and a valuation amount of \$47,084.00.

County Highway Engineer Danny Hollander presented the Weekly Crew Report to the Commissioners. Last week, the Highway Crew put up signs, picked up trash, cleaned trucks, sprayed salt brine, and patched, plowed, and sanded roads. The Highway Department used 1,756 tons of salt and sand on the roadways and 3 tons of salt on the parking lots.

The Commissioner's asked Engineer Hollander to sit in on their 10:45 am meeting to discuss the White River issue at the Southern Crossing Bridge. The DNR denied the Commissioners the right to cut a new river channel to divert the water's pathway to keep the river from overflowing across the road and damaging the Southern Crossing Bridge in order to protect an endangered fish called the Snail Darter. The Commissioners are proposing to challenge this DNR decision because they feel that is in the best interest of the public good to save the Southern Crossing Bridge and road.

The next item on the agenda was the Consideration of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Grant Agreement EDS#D3-11-5925 that was tabled at the Commissioner's meeting last Tuesday. Director of Work Release Rob Gaskill presented the Commissioners with the grant agreement in the amount of \$150,000.00 with a \$50,000 required match by the County. No additional money will be needed from the County for the \$50,000 match.

County Attorney J. Grant Tucker reviewed this grant agreement and recommended that the Commissioners sign it. However, Attorney Tucker wanted the Commissioners to be aware of a statement in this agreement that states, "All equipment purchased with grant funds for \$5,000 or more becomes property of the State and shall not be sold or disposed of without written consent from the State." Mr. Gaskill said that that the only equipment that was written into the grant for purchase was a laptop which was under the \$5,000 amount. Commissioner Franke made a motion to approve signing the one year Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Grant Agreement EDS#D3-11-5925 in the

amount of \$150,000.00. Commissioner Kleinhenz seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, Commissioner Kleinhenz presented an overview of the December 2010 Veteran's Monthly Report. In December, the Veteran's Office had 175 personal interviews (in office and in person), had 201 claims and applications filed (for veterans, spouses, widows, and children), received 416 questions and referrals for information and counseling services, attended 8 Veteran's meetings, had zero power of Attorneys filed, had zero out of the office interviews (house calls, nursing home, and hospitals), traveled 720 miles, received 211 incoming telephone calls, and made 134 outgoing telephone calls, and made 8 trips to the VA Medical Center. Commissioner Kleinhenz made a motion to accept the December 2010 Veteran's Monthly Report. Commissioner Franke seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Chairman Lienhoop asked if there was any other business to consider. Ms. Reta Wetherald, a concerned Bartholomew County resident, mentioned that the Commissioners were looking to purchase some property on 325 West and wondered if the Commissioners would have the same problem on 325 West that they are having on 200 West with flooding issues. Commissioner Kleinhenz said that the Commissioners were purchasing some of the property on 325 West to straighten out the roadway to make it safer. Chairman Lienhoop said that the purchases will eventually be of no direct cost to the taxpayers because they will be paid at 100% by reimbursable grants. Chairman Lienhoop said this is the same program that the City of Columbus used in the Pleasant

Grove Addition a few years ago. Chairman Lienhoop also mentioned that the Commissioners will be asking the County Council at their Tuesday, February 8th meeting for the money for this buyout up front because that is the way this must be done, but reiterated that 100% of this money will be reimbursed through grants. Commissioner Kleinhenz said that the Commissioners have been very conservative on this flood buyout plan. The Commissioners are only purchasing property that they actually need that will affect the roadways of Bartholomew County. Commissioner Franke added that the Commissioners did turn down at least a half dozen of the properties for purchase.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lienhoop at 10:22 am. The next Commissioner's meeting will be on Monday, January 31, 2011 at 10:00 am in the Commissioner's Chambers.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

CARL H. LIENHOOP, CHAIRMAN

PAUL FRANKE, MEMBER

LARRY S. KLEINHENZ, MEMBER

ATTEST:

BARBARA J. HACKMAN, AUDITOR